

# **Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative** **Grants for Community-based Collaborative Prevention Services** **Fiscal Year 2007 Evaluation Report**

## Background:

The Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative (0-3) is a statewide, community-based collaborative project aimed at developing an integrated system of prevention services for Michigan families with children ages 0-3 who are at risk of abuse and/or neglect. Zero to Three is funded through appropriations from the State of Michigan Departments of Community Health (DCH; \$524,000), Education (MDE; \$1,750,000, State School Aid Funds), and Human Services (DHS; \$4,000,000).

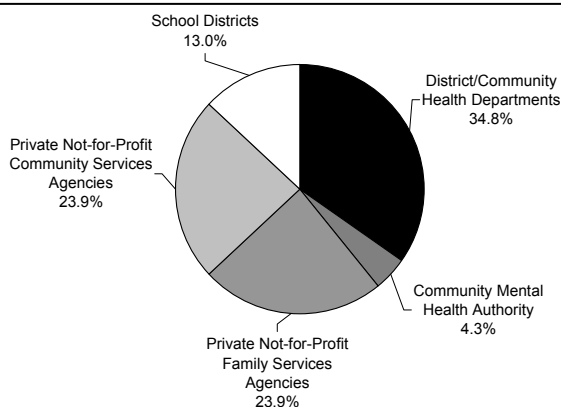
Table 1: Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Collaborative Partners and Appropriations	
Michigan Department of Community Health	\$524,000.00
Michigan Department of Education	\$1,750,000.00
Michigan Department of Human Services	\$4,000,000.00
Children's Trust Fund Administration	
Total	\$6,274,000.00

Additionally, the Children's Trust Fund administers the Initiative on behalf of the collaborative partners who advise through an interagency steering committee.

The Fiscal Year 2006-2007 legislation for the 0-3 Initiative included Section 113 of PA 330 of 2006 (DCH); Section 32(c) of PA 342 of 2006 (MDE); and Section 517 of PA 345 of 2006 (DHS). The legislation required that 0-3 funds be used for grants to support community-based collaborative prevention services designed to:

- Foster positive parenting skills.
- Promote marriage.
- Improve parent/child interactions.
- Promote access to needed community services.
- Increase local capacity to serve families at risk.
- Improve school readiness.
- Support healthy environments that discourage alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use.

Figure 1: Types of Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Grantees  
N = 46 Grants



For FY 2007, the 0-3 Initiative funded 46 grants serving 55 counties, expanding from 37 grants in 44 counties in FY 2006. Figure 1 provides the proportions of different agencies receiving funds through Zero to Three grants. Grantees are varied in background, but all provide research or evidence supported, family-centered prevention services to an at-risk population in order to reduce the incidence of maltreatment among Michigan's youngest children.

## Evaluation Components:

During Fiscal Year 2007, the initiative has continued to develop methodologies for data collection and program evaluation. The Steering Committee has implemented a set of outcomes-based indicators focused on legislative intents of the Initiative. These indicators<sup>1</sup> were created to address the building reality of outcomes and accountability for programs and services. The overarching purpose of this set of indicators is to systematically collect data from the entirety of grantees and aggregate this data to inform the system as a whole.

All 46 programs continue to use the *Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory* (AAPI-2) as the state-wide evaluation measure. The AAPI-2 incorporates a research-based set of attitudes and behaviors associated with the parenting and child rearing behaviors of abusive parents; responses to the AAPI-2 inventory provide an index of risk for behaviors of those who maltreat children and are attributable to child abuse and neglect. The AAPI-2 classifies attitudinal responses into five areas called “constructs”

- *Appropriate Expectations of Children,*
- *Empathy for the Needs of the Child,*
- *Alternatives to Corporal Punishment*
- *Appropriate Parent and Child Roles*
- *Valuing Children’s Power and Independence.*

Scores for each of the five AAPI-2 constructs range from a low of 1 to a high of 10; a score of 1, 2 or 3 on a construct is considered at-risk for the given construct. Additionally, the AAPI-2 evaluation incorporates a *Demographic Questionnaire* to track demographic and other life changes for participating families throughout their involvement.

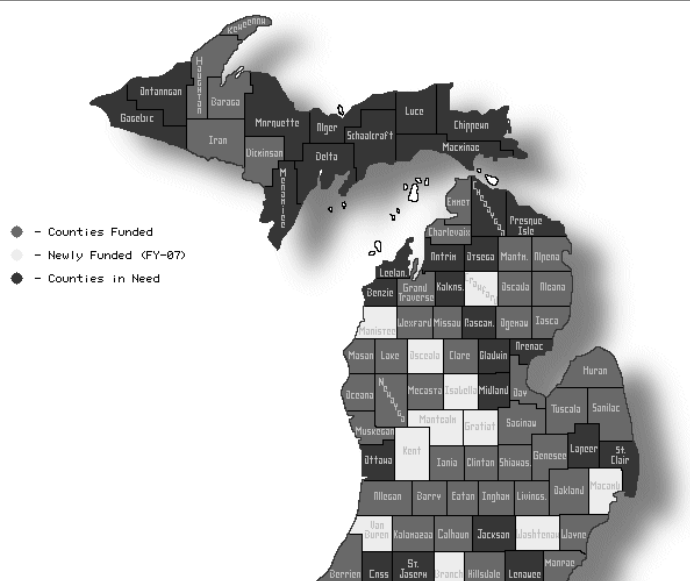
Finally, the quarterly data collection system has been amended to ensure consistent and accurate data collection from all grantees. The methods through which these data are processed and analyzed also are being updated to provide more precise statistics. Due to these data analysis changes, the statistics are analyzed differently and may look different from previous fiscal years.

## Demographic and Service Data

Data on participants and services are collected each quarter. Figure 2 shows the 55 counties funded through the Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative in Fiscal Year 2007. Based on these data, the estimate of the number of families served that year is 3,794 (unduplicated count).

Because of the possibility for duplication over the four quarters, the initiative has chosen to report the number of participants served by quarter as an average. For each quarter in Fiscal Year 2007, 0-3 programs served an average of 2,571 families, 90.5% of

Figure 2: Counties Funded with Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative Funds



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<sup>1</sup> The Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Indicators are available at

whom have three or more risk factors, 2,977 children, and 283 pregnant women. In sum, programs of the Initiative screened 20,572 families for possible enrollment, and 2,119 families, 2,294 children and 436 pregnant women were newly enrolled in 0-3 funded services in Fiscal Year 2007.

Programs funded through the 0-3 Initiative delivered 62,995 designated prevention services. Of this total,

- 61.3% were home visits,
- 21.1% were service coordination activities, and
- 17.7% were services focused on parenting education, support groups, and counseling services.

Additionally, 64,921 supplemental support services were delivered in Fiscal Year 2007; these services include: developmental screening, developmental newsletters, phone contacts, and other supports.

Overall, a total of 127,916 services were delivered in Fiscal Year 2007.

### Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative Outcomes

Outcomes are categorized by the legislative requirements. Data for each of the legislative requirements is provided using three data collection tools: quarterly data collection forms, the AAPI-2, and an analysis of child protective services involvement.

#### *Foster positive parenting skills - Supporting parents in strengthening characteristics that lend stability to their child's development*

Zero to Three programs focus on helping parents increase their understanding of child development, increase awareness and responsiveness to child engagement, increase understanding of appropriate child discipline techniques, and provide a safe and nurturing home environment.

- Using the AAPI-2 to assess at-risk parenting attitudes from January 2005 through the present, 46.9% of participants with more than one AAPI-2 inventory were found to be at-risk of child abuse and/or neglect on their initial administration in an average of two constructs; of these at-risk participants, 32.7% were found *not to be at-risk* at their next assessment, indicating a decrease in at-risk parenting attitudes. Those still at-risk are, as an average, at-risk in 1.19 of the five constructs.
- The average number of risk factors within the AAPI-2, measured through the five constructs, decreased from 0.95 on the pre-test to 0.74 on a six-month follow-up inventory and to 0.71 on the 12 month follow-up.
- 100.0% of grantees are providing home visits with individualized instruction in parenting skills or promoting access to parenting skills classes focusing on basic child care and child safety, a figure that has remained stable since Fiscal Year 2005.

#### *Improved parent/child interactions - Assisting and supporting parents to be appropriately responsive and consistent with the child's development and safety*

These programs focus on improving parent and child interactions including building understanding for the child's bids for attention, moods, emotions, expressions of interests, and efforts to communicate.

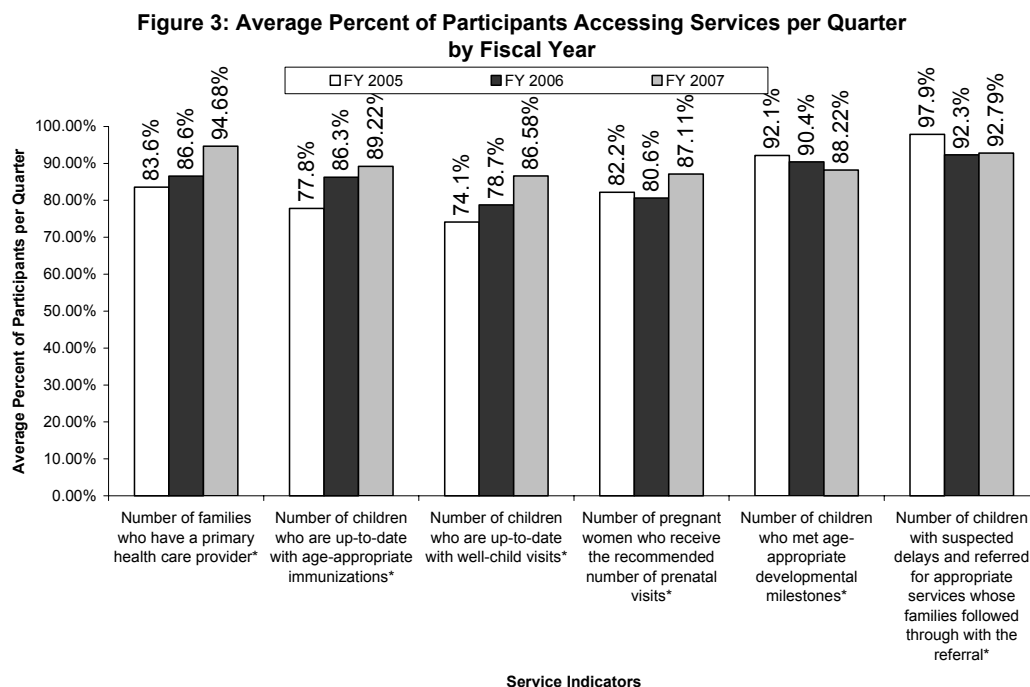
- The number of families served in each of the four quarters in Fiscal Year 2007 ranged between 2,046 and 2,914, averaging 2,571 families served per quarter; this is a

moderate increase from 2,500 families per quarter in Fiscal Year 2006 and a decrease from the average of 2,756 families served per quarter in Fiscal Year 2005.

- An analysis of Child Protective Services records shows that 98.17% of 2240<sup>2</sup> children served in 0-3 programs in Fiscal Year 2007 did not have a Category 1 or 2 CPS case while enrolled, which would have indicated a preponderance of evidence of abuse or neglect and a high risk for future maltreatment.
- 97.53% of 768 children served and exiting services in 2007 did not have a Category 1 or 2 CPS Case subsequent to exiting services and prior to the end of this fiscal year.

***Promote access to needed community services - Assistance for families to identify services to meet family needs and assist to remove barriers to accessing these services***

This component includes specialized services that the child may need as well as services for the entire family unit. Figure 3 summarizes these data from Fiscal Year 2007, comparing them with results from Fiscal Year 2005 and Fiscal Year 2006.



- 50.0% of children served in Fiscal Year 2007, on average, participated in developmental screenings per quarter, increasing from Fiscal Year 2006. All children receive screening when appropriate but may not warrant a screening every quarter.
- On average, 84.1% of children with identified developmental concerns were referred to appropriate services, an increase from Fiscal Year 2006. Additionally, 92.8% of families followed through with the referrals, holding constant with previous fiscal years.
- Each quarter, 86.6% of children are up-to-date with well-child visits.
- 94.7% of families served, per quarter, have access to a primary health care provider.
- 87.1% of pregnant women, on average, have the recommended number of pre-natal care visits. This is nearly 12 percentage points higher than the national average of 75.4%<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> This is the number of children reported in specific CPS analysis reports from the funded programs. This is a static count of children served as compared to quarterly averages used elsewhere and does not include all grantees due to missing records or errors in reporting.

<sup>3</sup> United Health Foundation (2007). *America's Health Rankings: A Call to Action for People and Their Communities*. Table 32: Adequacy of prenatal care. Available: <http://www.unitedhealthfoundation.com/ahr2007/prenatal.html#Table32>

*Improve school readiness - Efforts to contribute to the well-being of children so that they are ready to succeed in school and life is paramount in the first years of life*

Zero to Three Secondary Prevention focuses on readiness factors to succeed including social, emotional and physical health, communication, enthusiasm and curiosity, the ability to problem solve, and being grounded in safe, stable, consistent, and nurturing relationships.

- 89.2% of children served, per quarter, are up to date with age appropriate immunizations, an increase from Fiscal Year 2006.
- 88.2% of children assessed per quarter meet age appropriate developmental milestones.

*Increase local capacity to serve families at-risk – Building capacity and expanding prevention programs in communities*

Programs should maintain a stable level of services with steady matching funds and local supports so families identified with the greatest risk and need can receive community interventions.

- On average, 90.5% of families served per quarter have three or more risk factors for child abuse and/or neglect.
- 100.0% of grantees maintain the number and types of services available to families throughout the fiscal year.
- Grantees continually secure matching funds to maintain stable levels of services to families at risk. In Fiscal Year 2007, \$1,897,176 cash and \$677,600 in-kind supports were expended beyond the \$5,827,469 of appropriated funds directed to the programs.

*Support healthy family environments that discourage alcohol, tobacco and other drug use - Information and support that encourage healthy life choices, a physical environment that protects family members from injuries and illness and discourages use/abuse of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol are important to prevention activities.*

Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Programs incorporate this information into home visiting and parenting education activities.

- 100.0% of grantees included educational opportunities and supports for healthy family environments free of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

*Promotion of Marriage - These activities support healthy adult relationships so child well-being is maximized*

This is the newest focus of the Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative and began in October 2004. The majority of activities in 2007 aimed to maintain the support to grantees to help participants gain access to information on marriage and healthy relationships, enhancing positive relationship skills including effective communication and problem solving, promoting father involvement, and preventing domestic violence.

- 100.0% of grantees have provided marriage and healthy relationship information and/or programming in Fiscal Year 2007.

#### Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI-2) Data

In FY 2007, the Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative continued the use of the AAPI-2 with all 37 continuing programs and began data collection with the nine newly-funded programs. Based on data collected and analyzed since January 2005, significant

changes in parenting attitudes and decreases in risk factors are evident. While the evaluation is setting longitudinal goals, annual analyses show successes for families and children served.

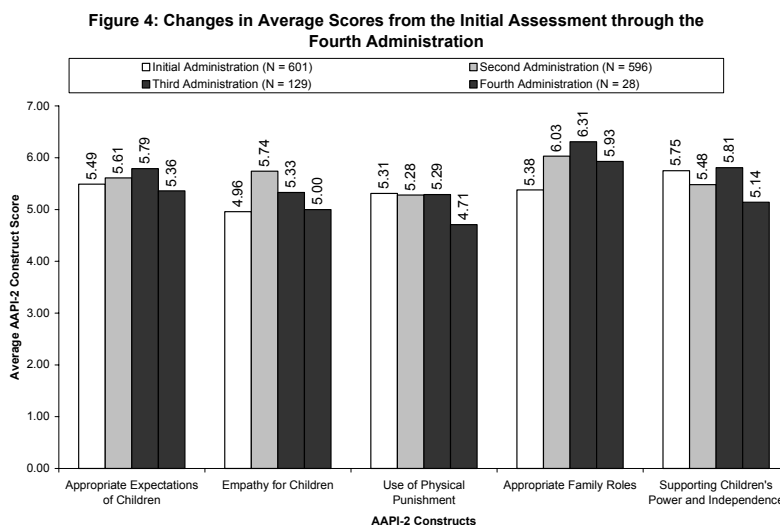
Based on data available to date, the following is known about those participating in the AAPI-2 Evaluation and Zero to Three Secondary Prevention:

- The majority of participants are female (95.5%), white (79.5%), and adults (76.1%).
- 23.9% of participants are teen parents.
- 24.4% of all participants, or their partners, are pregnant.
- 53.1% of participants report household income of \$15,000 or less.
- 39.6% of participants are married and 36.9% are single-parent mothers; the remaining participants are single-parent fathers, unmarried couples, or are separated or divorced.
- 34.7% of participants have previously participated in a parenting program.
- 91.9% of participants rate their relationship with their children as good or very good.
- 78.2% of participants rate their parenting skills good or very good.
- 71.7% of participants rate their current quality of life as good or very good.
- 46.9% of participants, on their initial administration, have at least one AAPI-2 construct score that places them at risk. Additionally:
  - 46.3% of participants with a 6-month follow-up assessment have at least one construct that place them at risk.
  - 45.7% of participants with an annual follow-up assessment have at least one construct that place them at risk.

Participant's scores on the AAPI-2 are, on average, within normal levels, with construct scores 4 or higher. The average initial AAPI-2 score determined at program enrollment, for those taking at least two inventories, are listed below by construct:

- Appropriate Expectations of Children: 5.49; 27.3% of participants are at risk.
- Empathy for Children's Needs: 4.96; 55.7% of participants are at risk.
- Alternative to Corporal Punishment: 5.31; 36.5% of participants are at risk.
- Appropriate Parent and Child Roles: 5.38; 41.5% of participants are at risk.
- Valuing Children's Power and Independence: 5.75; 40.4% of participants are at risk.

Figure 4 shows the changes in scores from the initial assessment through the fourth administration for those participants with at least two administrations. Increases in average scores indicate an increase in positive parenting attitudes; increases in scores, therefore, are positive outcomes. Scores on the *Empathy for Children* and *Appropriate Family Roles* constructs increased significantly ( $p \leq 0.001$ ) from the initial assessment to the second administration; additionally, the scores for the *Appropriate Family Roles* construct increased significantly ( $p \leq 0.001$ ) from the second assessment to the third administration. As data



are continually collected, adequate numbers of participants with three and four administrations will become increasingly available for analysis.

### Return on Investment

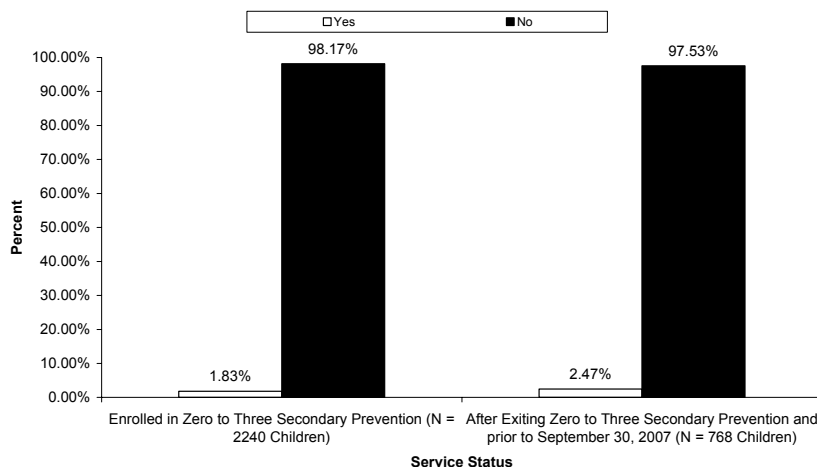
In Fiscal Year 2006, the direct cost of child abuse and neglect in Michigan, adjusted for inflation, was estimated to be \$535,012,049.<sup>4</sup> The direct cost of child abuse and neglect for children ages birth through three was approximately \$187,254,217.

Of the 2,571 enrolled families, 2,235 families who received 0-3 Secondary Prevention services in Fiscal Year 2007 were assessed to have three or more risk factors that are known to be associated with child abuse and neglect. Further analysis of the children in enrolled families found 98.17% did not have a Category 1 or 2 CPS substantiation during or after their participation in 0-3 in Fiscal Year 2007. The additional \$2,436,432<sup>5</sup> in gross savings over Fiscal Year 2006 reflects an increase of 0-3 Secondary Prevention services delivered to identified at-risk children and families throughout Michigan which was made possible by increased legislative appropriations and local cash and in-kind match.

Child Abuse and Neglect Direct Costs, Gross Savings & Return on Investment				
Fiscal Year	Direct Costs	Gross Savings	0-3 Secondary Prevention Costs	R.O.I.
2004	\$199,276, 980	\$33,804,176	\$4,774,000 (Appropriations)	709% (Appropriated Funds Basis)
2004	\$199,276,980	\$33,804,176	\$7,051,133 (Total Program Costs)	479% (Total Program Costs Basis)
2005	\$186,110,574	\$41,268,095	\$4,774,000 (Appropriations)	864% (Appropriated Funds Basis)
2005	\$186,110,574	\$41,268,095	\$6,785,024 (Total Program Costs)	608% (Total Program Costs Basis)
2006	\$187,254,217	\$43,704,518	\$6,274,000 (Appropriations)	697% (Appropriated Funds Basis)
2006	\$187,254,217	\$43,704,518	\$9,125,630 (Total Program Costs)	479% (Total Program Costs Basis)

Of the 768 children in families that exited the 0-3 Secondary Prevention program during FY 2007, 97.53% did not have a substantiated CPS case as of September 30, 2007. Reliably predicting how many children who received 0-3 Secondary Prevention services who would have become confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect, had they not participated in the program, is challenging if not impossible.

**Figure 5: Category 1 or 2 CPS Substantiations for Children Served in Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Fiscal Year 2007**



<sup>4</sup> Cost of Child Abuse and Neglect in Michigan, National Center on Child Abuse & Neglect Data Set, 1996, (revised 2003); adjustment for inflation at 2%

<sup>5</sup> The R.O.I. calculation, albeit complex, reduces to Increased Resources = Increased Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention = Increased Savings.